



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

MAIL

THOMSON LICENSING INC.
PATENT OPERATIONS
PO BOX 5312
PRINCETON NJ 08543-5312

SEP 22 2005

DIRECTOR OFFICE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

In re Application of

Christophe LORIN

Application No. 09/367,623

Filed: November 23, 1999

For: **METHOD FOR AUTOMATICALLY
ADAPTING LEVELS OF SIGNALS
EXCHANGED IN A COMMUNICATION
NETWORK**

DECISION ON PETITION

This is a decision on the Petition filed July 14, 2005, which is being treated under 37 C.F.R. § 1.181(a) to withdraw the holding of abandonment. No fee is required.

The application was held abandoned for failure to respond in a timely manner to the final Office action mailed on February 9, 2004. The application became abandoned when no further response was received. A Notice of Abandonment was mailed January 26, 2005.

Petitioner alleges to have timely filed a proper response to the final Office action on July 28, 2004. In support, petitioner has provided a copy of a response to the final Office action and a copy of a post card receipt showing a receipt date of July 30, 2004. A copy of a request for three month extension is also included with the petition.

A review of the application record reveals that the after-final response submitted on July 28, 2004 was in fact received in the Office on July 30, 2004. The after-final response has been deemed to be timely filed.

MPEP § 714.13 [R-1] Amendments After Final Rejection or Action, Procedure

Followed, states in part:

FINAL REJECTION — TIME FOR REPLY

If an applicant initially replies within 2 months from the date of mailing of any final rejection setting a 3-month shortened statutory period for reply and the Office does not mail an advisory action until after the end of the 3-month shortened statutory period, the period for reply for purposes of determining the amount of any extension fee will be the date on which the Office mails the advisory action advising applicant of the status of the application, but in no event can the period extend beyond 6 months from the date of the final rejection...

ENTRY NOT A MATTER OF RIGHT

It should be kept in mind that applicant cannot, as a matter of right, amend any finally rejected claims, add new claims after a final rejection (see 37 CFR 1.116) or reinstate

previously canceled claims. Except where an amendment merely cancels claims, adopts examiner suggestions, removes issues for appeal, or in some other way requires only a cursory review by the examiner, compliance with the requirement of a showing under 37 CFR 1.116(c) is expected in all amendments after final rejection. Failure to properly reply under 37 CFR 1.113 to the final rejection results in abandonment. A reply under 37 CFR 1.113 is limited to:

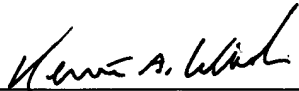
- (A) an amendment complying with 37 CFR 1.116;
- (B) a Notice of Appeal (and appeal fee); or
- (C) a request for continued examination (RCE) filed under 37 CFR 1.114 with a submission (i.e., an amendment that meets the reply requirement of 37 CFR 1.111) and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e). RCE practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to utility or plant patent applications filed before June 8, 1995 and design applications.

If no appeal has been filed within the period for reply and no amendment has been submitted to make the application allowable or which can be entered in part (see MPEP § 714.20), the application stands abandoned. [emphasis added]

While the response filed July 30, 2004 to the Final rejection has been deemed to be timely filed, petitioner should note that a proper response to a Final Office action must consist of either an amendment which places the case in condition for allowance, a Notice of Appeal, or the filing of a continuation application. See requirement stated above and also 37 CFR §1.113 and §1.116. The application was forwarded to the examiner to determine if the response filed July 30, 2004 places the application in condition for allowance. The examiner determined that the after final response fails to place the application in condition for allowance as set forth in an Advisory Action, a copy of which is enclosed with this decision.

Accordingly, the petition to withdraw holding of abandonment is **DENIED**.

Applicant may wish to consider a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.137 if they wish to revive the application.


Kenneth Wieder
Special Program Examiner
Technology Center 2600
Communications

Enclosure: Advisory Action

**Advisory Action
Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief**

Application No.

09/367,623

Applicant(s)

LORIN, CHRISTOPHE

Examiner

Jefferey F. Harold

Art Unit

2646

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 30 July 2004 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
(a) ☐ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
(b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
(c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
(d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).


4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).
5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
7. ☐ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☐ will not be entered, or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:
Claim(s) allowed: _____.
Claim(s) objected to: _____.
Claim(s) rejected: _____.
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).
9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).
10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:
See Continuation Sheet.
12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08 or PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____
13. ☐ Other: _____.


Jefferey F. Harold
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2646

Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: Claim 10 is an improper dependent claim, it is dependent upon cancelled claim 6.